

NSC BRIEFING

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7 DECEMBER 1955

VIOLENCE ON CYPRUS

I. Violence on Cyprus has increased in range and intensity during last three weeks.

A. Nationalist extremists have ambushed British military patrols, attacked military posts and military vehicles: during past three weeks at least 7 British soldiers killed, many more wounded.

B. Thusfar, only incident involving US residents [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] came on 24 November, when bomb was thrown at pickup truck driven by American.

1. No damage resulted, and driver gained impression from "demonstrators" (to whom he protested) he'd been mistaken for Britisher.

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- C. Nonetheless, US vehicles being kept off roads at night: personnel remaining indoors. Extended duty periods in US installations (from 4:00 P.M. to 8:00 A.M.) being taken by single men, who eat and sleep at stations. Our officials estimate some deterioration of service.
- D. No indication as yet that US personnel will be targets for terrorists, but possibility of accidental involvement naturally exists.

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